The humble

PETITION

OF THE

Lord Major, Aldermen, and Commons of the City of *London*, in Common-Councell assembled:

TO THE

Right Honourable the Lords and Commons assembled in High Court of PARLIAMENT.

Whereunto is annexed,

TWO PETITIONS;

The one Entituled,

The humble Petition of divers well-affected Citizens of the City of London.

The other Entituled,

The humble Petition of divers Young-men, Citizens, and other Apprentices of this Honourable CITY.

Printed by *Richard Cotes*, Printer to the Honourable City of *LONDON*, 1647.

TWO PETITIONS;

The humble Petition of diverse well-affected Citizens of the City of London.

The humble Petition of diverse Young men, Citizens, and other Apprentices of the Honourable City.

Printed by Richard Cotes, Printer to the Honourable City of LONDON, 1647.

TO THE
HONOVRABLE
THE
House of Commons assembled in High Court of Parliament:

The humble Petition of the Lord Major, Aldermen, and Commons of the City of London *in Common-Councell assembled.*

Humbly sheweth,

THat the Petitioners have by Ordinance of Parliament, dated the 23 present, taken notice of the pleasure of both Houses, for constituting a new Committee for the *Militia* of the City of *London*, and the Liberties thereof, and of all other places within the Lines of Communication, and the weekly Bills of Mortality, and for determining of a former Ordinance for the *Militia* of this City, &c. dated the Fourth day of *May* last: Which being taken into serious consideration, the Petitioners could not but first call to minde, how farre both Houses of Parliament had formerly honored the City, when they first established

the Committee for the *Militia*, and since inlarged or altered the same; to take the sense of this Court, before they finally resolved thereupon; Which confidence the Petitioners are not conscious to themselves to have forfeited: And next being sensible, by two Petitions presented to this Court, (the Copies whereof are annexed) the one intituled, *The humble Petition of divers wel-affected Citizens of the City of London*; and the other intituled, *The humble Petition of divers Young-men, Citizens, and others Apprentices of this City*; what a generall distemper this suddain change hath already made, and may further raise in the City; besides that hereby the City is for the present put out of all regular posture of defence:

The Petitioners could not but return unto this Honorable House, and humbly and earnestly pray, That the *Militia* which was established by Ordinance of the fourth of *May* last, as aforesaid, and then ordered to continue for one whole Year, may be re-established; That so the present feares and distempers in the City may be dispersed and appeased; whereunto as the Petitioners humbly conceive this to bee the onely present safe meanes, next under the mighty hand of God, so they wil not doubt but that the said *Militia*, as hitherto they have done, will in all things perform their duties according to their Trust.

And the Petitioners shall pray, &c.

To

To the Right Honorable the Lord Major, the Right Worshipfull the Aldermen and Commons of the City of *London* in Common-Councell Assembled.

The humble Petition of divers well affected Citizens of the City of London;

Sheweth,

THat whereas we have lifted up our hands to the High God, for the Reformation and defence of Religion, his Majesties just power and authority, the Liberties of the Subjects, and the Priviledges of Parliament; and seriously considering the late transactions to violate all these, and to weaken the zeale and forwardnesse of this City, and this Honourable Court in the maintenance of the same; by indevouring to remove the present *Militia* confirmed by authority of a free Parliament for a yeer, and made choise of by this Honourable Court:

In this straight and exigency we are bold in all humility, yet with all earnestnesse to pray; that this Honourable Court would sadly weigh the present dangers: and as in former times it hath bin your honour to be instrumentall for the preservation of this miserable and dying Kingdome, by the interposition of your courage, power, and wisedome in a time of need, so you would not suffer it to be buried in perpetuall oblivion and reproach by yeilding up that *Militia*, which by the good providence of God and the authority of a free Parliament, hath bin invested in your hands, the onely visible means under God we have now left for the security of our Religion, Lives, and Liberties.

And we shall pray, &c.

TO THE RIGHT HONORABLE The Lord Major, the Right Worſhipfull the Aldermen, and the Worſhipfull the Commons in Common-Councell aſſembled.

The humble Petition of divers Young men, Citizens and others Apprentices of this Honorable Citie.

Humbly ſheweth,

THat your Petitioners being ſadly affected with the diſtractions of theſe times (wherein divers diſcontented Perſons (for the advancement of their own Intereſts) labour to ſow new ſeeds of Diviſion and diſcord amongſt us, whereby Incendiaries are incouraged, the well-affected diſcountenanced, the priviledges of Parliament violated, the publike Worſhip of God ſleighted, the Liberties and properties of the faithfull ſubjects of this Kingdome, and eſpecially of this City much endangered, and the long deſired for end of theſe troubles (by his Majeſties gracious compliance with, and his ſafe and Honorable returne to his Parliament, which wee hoped was almoſt obtained) now retarded, and for preſent altogether fruſtrated) have preſented their humble Petition to both Houſes of Parliament, a Copy whereof is hereunto annexed, the which they have thought it their duty, likewiſe to tender unto this Honorable Court; being confident, that as their deſires in theſe their humble Addreſſes, ariſe from no other ends whatſoever, but, the glory of God, and the diſcharge of their conſciences, in purſuance of that ſolemne League and Covenant which lies upon them, *To endeavour to their utmoſt in their places and callings, to uſe all lawfull wayes and meanes, for the conſervation and maintenance of the juſt*

Rights

Rights and Priviledges of Parliament (lately ſo much violated;) *The preſervation and defence of his Majeſties Royall Perſon and Authoritie, together with the true Religion and Liberties of this Kingdome, And for the diſcovery and bringing to condigne puniſhment all evill Inſtruments whatſoever*, which labour by fomenting groundleſſe feares and jealouſies, to divide and make parties amongſt the people, thereby to retard the ſettlement of Church and State; So we doubt not but this Honorable Court (who have been Inſtrumentall to Invite us, both by example and perſwaſion (according to ſeverall Ordinances and Declarations of Parliament,) to engage our ſelves to the Proſecution of the ſaid ends, wherein you have already done very much to your everlaſting praiſe & commendation) wil ſtill with all Reality, conſtancy and undaunted magnanimitie, purſue the ſame, and likewiſe encourage all thoſe, that ſhall according to their duty, labour to promote the ſame ends: Wherefore we humbly pray,

Declaration to the Kingdome, 12 *July* 164[illegible]. * An Ordinance for Sr. *Tho. Fairfax*, 15. *July* 1644.

That this Honorable Court would be pleaſed to uſe their uttermoſt endeavours, by their addreſſes to the Parliament, and otherwiſe, as they in their wiſedomes ſhall think fit, for the furthering of your Petitioners deſires, contained in the above mentioned Petition.

We cannot (likewiſe) but with all thankfullneſſe take notice of what this Honorable City hath done, for the putting in execution of ſeverall Ordinances of * Parliament, That none be put into any place of truſt, either in Church or Commonwealth, but ſuch as have taken, and now ſtand well affected to the Covenant, to which we are confident that you will ſtill adhere.

+Ordinance 27. *June* 1643. Ordinance 30. *Nov.* 1643. Ordinance 2 *Feb.* 1643.

And whereas there have been and ſtill are ſeverall factious perſons, who ſtile themſelves the well-affected of this City (though unworthy of that name) who labour to Traduce the actions thereof, thereby to bring an Odium upon it, & to lay it open to their malice; A freſh Inſtance whereof, wee have in a late Petition preſented to the Parliament, pretented to be the Petition of the Young men and Apprentices of this City; As likewiſe by a Petition pretended to be preſented to Sir *Thomas Fairfax*, the which we are ready to produce, and referre the Conſideration of them to this Honorable Court. And further pray,

That

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That as both the *Militia* of this City, hath been legally chosen by this Honorable Court, according to Ordinance * of Parliament, and the Common-Councell legally choſen by the ſeverall Wards (according to the ancient Cuſtome of this City,) you would be pleaſed to retaine the ſame Power both Civil and Military in your owne hands. And

That you would be pleaſed (for the prevention of the many Imminent dangers, to which this City may be lyable by reaſon of theſe diſtractions) to take ſuch effectual and ſpeedy courſe for the ſafeguard and defence thereof; that the feare, either of any Mutiny within, or of any unwarrantable Power from abroad, may in ſome meaſure bee taken away, whereby Trade (the main ſupport of this City) now mightily impaired, may be again revived, and the Franchizes and Liberties of this Honorable City (to which wee are the Apparent heires) maintained and defended.

And as your Petitioners are in duty bound, both by that Relation which they ſtand in to the Honorable City, as by that ſolemne engagement whereinto they have entred, ſo they will be alwayes ready to hazard their lives for the defence thereof, and not ſuffer themſelves directly, or indirectly, by any terrour or perſwaſion to be drawn from their duty herein.

FINIS.